

# THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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## FRANCE.

An important and interesting debate in the French Chamber of Deputies has arisen out of the petitions of the artisans of Paris for the abolition of slavery. The presentation of these petitions we have already recorded. They were, according to the usual form, referred to a committee to report a recommendation thereon; and the report was brought up on the 4th instant. The following account of the proceedings is abridged from the *Moniteur* of the following day:—

M. DENIS brought up the report of the committee on the petitions of the artisans of Paris, for the immediate abolition of slavery in the French colonies. The report, at much length, recommended that the Chamber should pass to the order of the day.

He was followed by M. DE GASPARIN, who made an animated and eloquent speech on the other side, which evidently produced a lively sensation in the Chamber.

Admiral DE MACKAU, Minister of Marine and the colonies, then rose, and, in the course of his speech, referring to the Duke of Broglie's Commission, he said—The Government have given the most serious attention to that report. They have often deliberated on it; and they are of opinion that the time is not come for proposing to the Chambers either of the schemes detailed by the Commission. At the same time, the Government are convinced that they ought to do everything possible to ameliorate the condition of the slaves—(ironical cheers from the left)—and to prepare them for entering hereafter on a condition of well-regulated freedom. For this end the Government have determined on carrying out the beneficial arrangements of the ordinances of January 5, 1840, and September 16, 1841, on patronage, on schools, on moral and religious education, and on the management of estates. Gentlemen, we shall proceed with firmness and constancy in this path, because we are persuaded that it is the only one which, at this moment, can lead to salutary results. The Government do not object to the petition being referred to them—(ironical cheers from the left.)

M. LEDRU ROLLIN succeeded the Minister of Marine in a powerful speech on the side of abolition; and after him came M. JOLLIVET, the ignoble receiver of 25,000 francs a year from the Colonists for being the advocate of slavery.

M. GUIZOT, Minister of Foreign Affairs: Gentlemen,—after this discussion there must not remain, either among ourselves or in the colonies, any doubt as to the intentions of the King's Government. No one must be able to say that to-day the question has been thrown back, instead of advancing. (Cheers.) The King's Government are firmly resolved to effect the abolition of slavery in the colonies. (Cheers.) The King's Government are not called upon, at present, to discuss the different modes of abolition. That which the petitions now reported on recommend, actual immediate abolition, in mass, is so impracticable that I do not believe any one in this Chamber would venture to propose it. If it were practicable, it ought to be demanded; and I myself would be the first to propose it. If the King's Government do not propose it, it is because they are convinced that, both for the colonists, for the slaves, and for the mother country, measures must be taken in order to prepare for emancipation—to lead to it—and to ensure its success. Several of these measures have already been taken; considerable progress has already been made; it is not correct to say, as has been said in this tribune, that no ground has been gained. Yes, gentlemen; in the colonies, both for the moral and religious instruction of the slaves, for the formation of family ties, for the physical welfare of the slave, for his connexion with his master, already many salutary measures have been adopted; and we have found in one class of colonists, the magistrates charged with the administration of the colonies, useful assistants.

It is true that we have encountered, and that we shall always encounter, great obstacles. Who can be surprised at it? Can such a change be effected without serious resistance? With time and vigorous measures we shall overcome this opposition; partly by such measures as it may be competent to the King's Government to adopt, and partly by asking of you (which we shall shortly do) the necessary powers. (Cheers.)

This is what I call the preparation. It is not by doing nothing that we intend to play our part, or by waiting for the abolition of slavery to be brought about by Providence alone. No; it is necessary that our whole strength, both at home and in the colonies, should be exerted—and exerted effectually. I have the satisfaction of informing the Chamber that much is already done, that much remains to be done; and that we shall shortly demand the powers necessary to accomplish what remains: among other things, to give to the authority of the magistrates more practical efficacy than it has at present. We hope that by such measures, earnestly and sincerely followed out, we shall arrive at an end, which is—and I repeat it aloud, that no one may doubt it—the abolition of slavery

in our colonies. And we hope, also, that if we are firmly supported by the Chambers, with the determination which we ourselves cherish, we shall reach a better conclusion than the English Government. That country has obtained an immense result; yet it leaves much to be desired; and, although no one admires more than I do the greatness of the work, and the noble spirit in which it has been accomplished, I think it important to our national welfare to avoid the errors which have been committed. We shall profit by the experience of England, and shall attain the same result—(cheers, and "question.")

M. DE TRACY: If the time were not so far advanced, I should ask leave of the Chamber to refute some of the objections, so often adduced and so often answered, in which the Minister of Marine wrapped up his dilatory propositions. As I think that in a Government there ought to be unity of sentiments in all circumstances, and as on so important a question unanimity is indispensable, I am not afraid to say, I confess, that I have heard, with pleasure, the Minister of Foreign Affairs proclaim that the question had not retrograded. And when I recollect that hitherto, to this tribune, all the organs of the Government have come to declare that emancipation in our colonies was a determined question; when I recollect that the instructions sent to all the governors—and we have had sufficient communications with them, in the colonial commission of which I had the honour of being a member, for more than two years—when, I say, all the instructions sent to the governors and the colonial councils have implied that the measure was determined on by the Government; when it has been said to the colonists and the colonial councils, that they had only to inquire into the best means of effecting it, it would have seemed strange to me had it been possible to draw back from such a position.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, however, has told us (and I take particular notice of his words) that the arrangements are not altered; and further, that in a short time (and I beg to observe that, as the session is far advanced, he has not much time to lose) he will demand of the Chambers sufficient powers, so far to mature this great measure that no one (if I understand him) can make it void, in one or two months; but thenceforward to await the effect of certain preparatory measures which do not now exist in the colonies, although it may be said there is room for them.

I pause, then, upon this cheering and gratifying thought, that all my friends may enter into it, and that the honour of the whole Chamber may be committed to it; for, in truth, after having said in the face of Europe, and in the name of the Chamber, that this project had been irrevocably adopted, it would be incredible that, by dilatory measures, its execution should be interminably delayed.

I accept the assurance which the Minister for Foreign Affairs has just given us in the name of the Government, and I support the reference of the petition.

M. DE LA ROCHEJAQUELIN said a few words amidst cries of question. The recommendation of the committee that the Chamber should pass to the order of the day, was then put and negatived, and the petition was referred to the Government.

## LETTER TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

New York, April 2nd, 1844.

Rev. Messrs. Cunningham, Burns, Lewis, and Chalmers, and H. B. Ferguson, Esq., Commissioners of the Free Church of Scotland.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS,—You have come from a land distinguished throughout Christendom for the stand it now maintains, and has often, during the last three centuries, maintained, against ecclesiastical tyranny. You come to seek the sympathy and solicit the aid of the friends of freedom in this land, in your noble struggle against civil dictation in sacred things. The abolitionists of the United States are also engaged in a struggle on behalf of the down-trodden in this land, whose rights, natural, civil, and religious, are taken from them. We respectfully tender to you, and the Church you represent, our sympathy; and we shall be glad to give you our cordial support, if we can consistently do it.

You are probably aware that, as Presbyterians, you have, in the southern part of this Union, between thirty and forty thousand of professed brethren and sisters in Christ, whose situation is far more pitiable than that of the oppressed in your land. The Christian peasantry of Sutherland,\* grievously as they suffer, know little of the iron despotism of their coloured brethren in the southern part of this country. The duke who bears that title insists that his tenants shall listen to the preachers whom he selects for them, or not build their Dissenting churches on his land; and the civil courts sustain him in his alternative. The Free Church appeals to God,

\* One of the most northern counties in Scotland.



and to every God-fearing man, against this tyranny. In this republic there are no dukes, but there are thousands of tyrants, some of whom are styled "honourable," who will not allow their slaves to learn to read the Bible, or attend upon preaching of their choice, and the civil courts sustain them in their prohibition. These *honourable* men insist on the right of seizing the wives of the slaves at any time, and of beating, or selling, or humbling them, as to them seems best; and of selling men, women, and children; and the law authorizes it. If they even murder one of their slaves, (and God only knows how often this is done,) though twenty or one hundred, instead of "two or three," are ready to prove the fact, they only run the risk of being murdered in their turn; for the law does not suffer them to testify against men whose skin is whiter than their own. But it may be said, It is "Cæsar" who does these things, and what can be expected from Cæsar? What does the Church? She declares, from her highest to her lowest judicatories, that these things shall not be interfered with; that the system is legal—nay, even scriptural; and that they who declare it is an outrage against republicanism and the Bible are fanatics and incendiaries.

We have reason to believe that neither the Free Church of Scotland, nor yourselves, are wholly ignorant of these things. It is, therefore, with astonishment and grief that we have learned that you have commenced a tour through the slave-states of this Union, with a view to solicit funds as well of slave-holders as of other persons. Doubtless you will be warmly greeted by the people, and especially by that portion who hold their fellow-men and fellow-Christians in bondage. While they proffer you their sympathy and money, you will be invited to occupy the pulpits of the ministers, and the kindest attentions will be lavished upon you. But it will be only while you seal your lips against any condemnation of slave-holding, and preach the gospel according to the usages of Southern ministers, and the restrictions of the slave-holding members of their churches, that your preaching will be listened to with approbation, or even tolerated. Should you determine to preach, as you have been accustomed to do on your native hills, with special reference to the sins of the people to whom you preach, and with exhortations to all classes to act out the great principles of the gospel, "whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear," you will speedily learn that the flattering attentions with which you were welcomed will cease; that no more offerings will be made to your treasury; that you will be notified to quit the district where you sojourn, "peaceably or forcibly."

You may exhort from the text, "Servants obey your masters:" but, unless you are prepared to have your tour abruptly terminated, speak not of the "image in which man was made;" of Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" of Moses' law, "In righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour;" of David's challenge, "What hast thou to do to declare my statutes? When thou sawest a thief then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers;" of Solomon's sayings, "The righteous considereth the cause of the poor, but the wicked regardeth not to know it. So I returned and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of the oppressors there was power, but they had no comforter;" of Isaiah's commands, "Cease to do evil: seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow;" of Christ's rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets;" and his question, "How much better is a man than a sheep?" of Paul's exhortation, "Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal;" of James's upbraiding, "Go to, now, ye rich men; behold the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth." Discuss any of these texts as men representing a *free* Church ought to discuss them, as ambassadors of Christ are bound, everywhere and in all places, to discuss them, and you will find that the congratulations of the Presbyters of the south and their people will be turned into execrations.

Let you should imagine that we have imputed to the presbyters of the slave-holding states sentiments and feelings so utterly repugnant to the character and profession of Christian ministers that you cannot credit the statement, we will state two or three things known to the whole country to be facts, that you may be convinced that we have used no exaggeration. A distinguished Presbyterian clergyman of Virginia has threatened death to any avowed enemy of slavery, who can be caught where the system is in force. Another Presbyterian clergyman, of Alabama, disgraces the name he bears by hinting that the fate of Haman may be that of the advocates of human rights, if they cross the Potomac. Another clergyman of Virginia, writing to his presbytery, winds up his epistle with a ludicrous imitation of the exhortation of the Apostle, mixed with the barbarism of the Lynch code—"Now, dear Christian brethren, I humbly express it as my earnest wish, that you quit yourselves like men; if there be any stray goat of a minister among you tainted with the blood-hound principles of abolitionism, let him be ferreted out, silenced, excommunicated, and left to the public to dispose of him in other respects." These men are presbyters—leaders among their brethren—*primi inter pares*. Wherein, we demand, do they differ from the priest of the Inquisition? Torquemada and his successors did no more than ferret out those who denounced their unrighteous gains.—Silence, and excommunicate, and then leave them to the public to dispose of them in other respects! They did not do it, kind, holy men—oh no! they only excommunicated, and then delivered over to the secular arm.

We must say, respected brethren, in Christian fidelity, that your

present position strikes us as singular and unfortunate. What! leave Britain because Parliament insists on intruding unacceptable ministers into vacant parishes, and go to the slave-holding states in America to tell your grievances, and get the sympathy of men, who, like a Senator of South Carolina, threaten hanging in spite of all the governments on earth, against those who merely say that their fellow men, including the thirty or forty thousand of your Presbyterian brethren, should be allowed to read the Bible, and not be robbed by law of their wives and children, and just wages! At home you complain of Sir Robert Peel because he will not consent that your *Scotch* brethren shall *always* have the preacher of their choice, and you are actually going to tell the story of the wrongs of the Free Church of Scotland to men, who, like Governor McDuffie of South Carolina, clamour for the blood of abolitionists only because they have insisted, and still insist, that your Presbyterian brethren in the South, with other Christians and fellow-countrymen, shall call their bodies and their souls their own!

You come to us complaining of oppression, which, however severe and cruel, has not crushed you, and pleading a poverty which is indeed your highest honour. Will you then court the sympathy of those tyrants whose little finger is thicker than the Duke of Sutherland's loins? You are now actually labouring that your most honourable poverty may become less, by contributions which are the price of "slaves and souls of men"—nay, the price of those of your own brethren for whom Christ died. You contemplate carrying that impious gold, that adulterous silver, to lay the foundations of FREE Churches, and raise roofs which are to re-echo the voices of the successors of Wishart and Hamilton, of Melville and Henderson! Is not this acting in such a way as to *seem* at least to give occasion for the application of these words of solemn import to you, and the Free Church of Scotland which you now represent in the slave communities of these states? "Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high; that he may be delivered from the power of evil! Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by *cutting off many people*, and hast sinned against thy soul. For the stone shall cry out of the wall and the beam out of the timber shall answer it. Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and establisheth a city with iniquity." What system has cut off so many people, in every sense, as slavery—sent so many myriads out of the world before their time, trampling them down out of the rank of men to that of beasts, before it dismissed them to the bar of the Eternal? The Moloch of the South stands ready to pay you for your silence on the subject of his bloody deeds while you sojourn in his domains, and for your virtual sanction of his atrocities. He knows full well that a corrupted Christianity is the real bulwark of his kingdom. God, in his wonder-working providence, has recently set the Scottish Free Church on a high place, and given her an influence that will be felt for good or evil throughout Christendom. Hitherto, dear brethren, the ministers of your land have sent their rebukes to this nation, especially to that portion of it engaged in the murderous system of slavery, and expostulated with those here professing the same Christianity, on account of their participation in a crime that sets at defiance its holy precepts.

Will you now, as you are eye-witnesses of the iniquitous system that filled you with such disgust and abhorrence at a distance, make common cause with *that* Christianity? Clasp hands with its defenders, and accept their blood-stained offerings? The Fiend can well afford, we know, to pay you tens of thousands, for he knows that your countenance is worth millions to him. If he can purchase the silence of the successors of John Knox and Andrew Thomson, if he can number *them* among his allies, he may well think his victory complete.

It is possible that you may allege, in the language of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, when they receive, nay, solicit the donations of slave-holders, and number among their members those who hold their fellow men in slavery, that "you sustain no relation to the system that implies approbation." Let us briefly examine this. In 1832, Ann Pray, of Georgia, left a legacy to the A. B. C. F. M., of one fourth of certain negro slaves. The Board declined the bequest: why, unless they thought it wrong to own such chattels? Suppose, instead of leaving the slaves, the testatrix had bequeathed their value in silver dollars, directing the bones, and museles, and immortal minds to be brought to the hammer, and one fourth of the proceeds to be handed over in the shape of a cheque on a bank, would the Board have declined the offer? If not—if they would have received the cash, why turn from the human flesh? If they would have sent the money back, why solicit the money of slave dealers? Is it not well known that slaves are continually bought and sold at the South, that professors of religion of all denominations—ministers of the Gospel, even—traffic in human flesh? The committee of the Presbyterian Synod of Kentucky, in 1834, declared, "Brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, parents and children, are torn asunder, and permitted to see each other no more. These acts are daily occurring in the midst of us." They say besides, "Cases have occurred in our own denomination, where professors of the religion of mercy have torn the mother from her children, and sent her into a merciless and returnless exile. Yet acts of discipline have rarely followed such conduct." In the year 1835, Mr. Stewart, of Illinois, declared in the Presbyterian General Assembly of the United States, "Ministers of the Gospel and doctors of divinity may engage in this unholy traffic, and yet sustain their high and holy calling. Elders, ministers, and doctors of divinity are, with both hands, engaged in this practice." A minister of the Amita Presbytery, Mississippi,



who is a public defender of the system of slavery, declares, "If buying, selling, or holding a slave for gain, is a heinous sin and scandal, then, verily, three-fourths of all the Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians are of the devil."

How then can any Missionary Board, or other benevolent or religious association or body of men—how can you, solicit money from American slave-holders in a way implying that you recognize them as Christians, and say, *We sustain no such relation to slavery as implies approbation of the system?* Actions speak louder than words. Are not the donations of slave-breeders, slave-dealers, and slave-holders, received as readily and gratefully as the earnings of honest industry? Why demur about receiving Ann Pray's legacy, and solicit money from those engaged in holding men, women, and children in bondage? It is true, that the amount given by professing Christians in the slave states falls very far short of the amount given by an equal number of Christians in the free states of the same means, but it is the principle against which we contend, and not the amount of the sums received. It was not the size of Achan's wedge that troubled the camp of Israel.

Should the fact that the Bible, Tract, and Missionary Societies of this country solicit funds from slave-holders be considered as a justification of your making application to such persons on behalf of the Free Church of Scotland, allow us to say, that the example of these institutions, in this respect, is no proper precedent, unless the practice is right in itself. We observe farther, that those societies, as has been often urged, are not held to be guiltless in this matter. You may not be aware that they are composed in part of slave-holders and pro-slavery men, who have ever maintained an influence in their councils which neither their numbers, their contributions, nor their principles have justified; and that, for several years past, there has been a growing sentiment in this country, that it is wholly inconsistent with the principles of Christianity for religious or benevolent associations to solicit money from slave-holders, which is but the price of blood, for the purpose of converting men to the religion of Christ. Because the societies above-mentioned will not refrain from fellowshiping slave-holders as Christians, and soliciting their money for religious purposes, a considerable number of the friends of the Redeemer have declined contributing to their treasuries, and new organizations have been formed in the missionary department, and are contemplated in the other departments, to be free from "the wages of unrighteousness."

The Christian abolitionists of this land need your aid, dear brethren, in pulling down the strongholds of oppression; and they feel that you will not be sustained in your consciences, or by that numerous and venerated body which you represent, if you directly or indirectly oppose them, by strengthening the hands of their opponents. You will hear the abolitionists of this country denounced by ministers, elders, and private professors of the Presbyterian Church, as well at the north as at the south; but, in order to judge how far the denunciations are correct, you will naturally compare their doctrines and measures with the doctrines and measures of the abolitionists in Great Britain, and not take up an evil report on hearsay, and without due investigation. Our doctrines and measures, you will find if you personally investigate the matter, are identical with those of Wilberforce, Clarkson, Andrew Thomson, and the other worthies who, amidst threats, calumny, and violence, carried the anti-slavery cause in our father-land, under the Divine blessing, to a glorious consummation. For twelve years the abolitionists of this country have been contending with great earnestness—amidst reproach and contumely, not only from the slave-holding states, but from interested politicians and professing Christians of every denomination—for the poor slaves, our brethren and fellow-countrymen; and for their own rights and privileges, as intended to be secured to them by their constitution of government. Believing that the American church is the bulwark of American slavery, they have laboured to arouse it to a due sense of its sin, to repentance, and works meet for repentance. Some progress has been made. Our Christian brethren in England, Ireland, and Scotland, have aided in the good work by their prayers to God, and their remonstrances with the American church. With this aid we have sought to sever the unholy alliance subsisting between the slave power and the professed followers of Christ.

Now we know that, if you, the commissioners of the Free Church of Scotland, solicit gold of southern slave-holders to build up your cause, you will weaken our hands, strengthen incalculably the prejudices which are the bane of the coloured man, soothe the South in her mad career, deaden still more the already portentous apathy of the North, and disappoint the friends of human rights and of a pure Gospel throughout the world. If you obtain the slave-holders' money, if the Free Church of Scotland accept it, it is certain that you will look with more tolerance than you would otherwise do on the great iniquity of slavery; the lips of your Church will be sealed; no more remonstrances will be sent over from your land to the slave-holding ministers, elders, deacons, and private members of the American Churches; and an alliance of sympathy and interest will be established between the Scottish Church and the slaveocracy of this Union. That tolerance, that sympathy, that alliance, will be the beginning of mischief. Who but God can trace its course and close?

We have said that some progress has been made in arresting the triumph of slavery over our free institutions, and in saving the Churches from unqualified acquiescence in its soul-destroying pretensions. The Presbyterian Church in this country, at the commencement of the anti-slavery movement already alluded to, had well-nigh surrendered to the claims of slavery. In 1794 she de-

clared slave-holding "man-stealing;" but, unfortunately, to doctrine she did not add discipline—to her faith, *virtue*; and therefore the plague spread from the day of her decision up to 1816, when the declaration was removed from her Confession of Faith. In 1818 she made what seemed a dying struggle to free herself from the deadly embrace of her enemy. She then called slavery "a gross violation of human rights," and exhorted the violators "to remove it totally, as soon as the public welfare would allow. The exhorters forgot that public welfare would not justify, even for a moment, "a gross violation of human rights." This exhortation was tainted with the infidelity that expediency would justify sin—that it was right to do evil "that good might come." No wonder the good never came. Accordingly, in 1819 she declared, "it was impossible for her to deliberate and to decide judicially on the subject of slavery in relation to the Church." Thus, in forty-two years the Presbyterian Church of this country lost the power of even speaking against slavery; the power of acting had, no doubt, departed long before. But, although the Presbyterian Churches of the United States, as represented in the General Assemblies, have stopped their ears against the groans of the slave, and the expostulations of the abolitionists, a spirit has been aroused in some of the Churches in favour of freedom, and we faintly believe it is increasing. Will you aid us in spreading this light, or will you aid the enemies of freedom in extinguishing it?

Respected Christian brethren: Be warned! You are now sojourning in the home of the serpent. We have, it is true, his slime and his folds in the north, but his head and his fangs are in the south. Are you in no danger from the fascination of his eye? Beloved guests from our mother country, suffer our friendly and frank expostulation. Is not the Free Church of Scotland virtually here in you? Can you fall into grievous error without injuring her? And will not the magnitude of the mischief be in proportion to the greatness of your mistake? Consider, you left the establishment with nothing but your characters. Houses, lands, salaries—all was left behind except Christian character. Never did that jewel of your souls shine so brightly as in the dark hour when you went forth bearing the reproach of Christ. You are at war with oppression, and you come to us for the sinews of war. Can you suppose that the wages of iniquity are of any value to you?

Now, suppose a Presbyterian minister or elder of Virginia, of South Carolina, or New Orleans, whose money is the fruit of slavery, should offer you a hundred dollars, can you consistently receive it while the donor advocates slavery, justifies himself in holding slaves, or threatens the friends of freedom? Should he fling some of his dollars to you, because forsooth he affects to sympathise with the oppressed condition of the men of Ross and Sutherland, will you, can you, DARE you stoop to pick them up? Oh! instead of this, why not assert the dignity of your calling and country, and say to him, 'Friend, we seek not yours, but you.' We could not have believed, until we came among you, that in this Christian Republic there are nearly three millions of human beings in the condition of heathen, and, in some respects, in a worse condition. We must believe this, because your Presbyterian brethren of South Carolina and Georgia say so. That heathenism is owing to slavery. Slavery will not allow its subjects to read the Bible, or testify where white men are concerned. Slavery allows the slave members of your Presbyterian church to live in adultery without discipline. It even recommends such to sister-churches, as members in good and regular standing! That system you and your brethren recommend by your example—never preach against—nay, even palliate, and defend from your pulpits. Out of your own mouths, then, you are condemned as the abettors of the worst heathenism under heaven. We dare not recognise you as brethren. God forbid we should touch your money! When shall we open our mouths for the dumb, in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction, if not now? We see them drawn to death, and the chain in your hand—they 'are ready to be slain,' and you hold the sword. Shall we forbear to deliver them? Shall we say we knew it not? 'Doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? And he that keepeth thy heart, doth he not know it? And shall not he render unto every man according to his work? Friend, we will not take your money!'

What will the enemies of the Free Church—the state hirelings—say, if you carry home the slave-holders' bounty? Will they not taunt you thus: These are the men who could not swallow the bread of their sovereign as the price of their submission to tyranny, but their consciences, honour, and Christian principle did not revolt in begging a pittance from the pulpits of tyrannical oppression, in Washington, Charlestown, and New Orleans? What O'Connell refused to touch when brought to his hand, Dr. Chalmers sent, and Drs. Cunningham and Burns went, 4,000 miles to solicit!

This, Christian brethren, is a deed we devoutly deprecate, and we respectfully and earnestly implore of you not to fellowship slave-holders as Christians, not to solicit their "filthy lucre," not to dishonour the Free Church of Scotland by flattering American Presbyterians in their sins; not to have your lips sealed here or on your return by those who bind you to silence on the sinfulness of slavery by their courtesies or benefactions; not to weaken the hands of American abolitionists and strengthen the hands that bind the poor slaves; not to offend God, by using "the wages of unrighteousness" obtained in this country to build up His cause in your own land. But should you, despite of our friendly warning and urgent Christian remonstrance, solicit money acquired by the sale of American Christians, and men made heathen by the cruel system of slavery, we can only express our firm confidence that your con-



stituents, the Free Church of Scotland, will refuse to receive the polluted silver and gold, and return it to those who gave it.

ARTHUR TAPPAN,  
SIMEON S. JOCELYN,  
CHRISTOPHER RUSH,  
WILLIAM SHOTWELL,

LEONARD GIBBS,  
LEWIS TAPPAN,  
THEODORE S. WRIGHT,  
SETH W. BENEDICT;

Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY  
FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY AND THE SLAVE-TRADE THROUGH-  
OUT THE WORLD.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING of the above SOCIETY  
will be held in EXETER HALL, on FRIDAY, the 17th of MAY,  
1844.

The Right Hon. LORD BROUGHAM will preside.

The Chair will be taken at Eleven o'clock precisely. Tickets may be had at the Office of the Society, 27, New Broad-street; of James Nisbet, Berners-street; Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly; Jacob Post, Lower-street, Islington; Henry Sterry and Sons, High-street, Borough; and of Charles Gilpin, Bishopsgate-street.

Now ready, price One Shilling and Sixpence to Non-Subscribers,

THE FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT of the BRITISH and FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY; with a copious Appendix, in reference to the Slave-trade throughout the world; its extent; the cost of endeavours to suppress it; abolition of Slavery in British India, the British settlements in the East, Scinde, &c.; results of Emancipation in the West India colonies; Emigration from Africa to the West Indies; Emigration of Indian Labourers to Mauritius; British subjects holding Slaves in foreign countries; Washington Treaty; Slavery in the United States of America, the Dutch, French, Spanish and Portuguese colonies, and in Brazil; Treaties with the South American republics and with Hayti; Slavery in the East, &c. &c.

London: Thomas Ward and Co., 27, Paternoster-row; and British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, 27, New Broad-street.

#### NOTICES.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER is an Evening Paper, published on alternate Wednesdays, and may be had of all News-venders throughout the country. Price 4d., or 8s. 8d. per annum. A few complete volumes are on hand.

Subscriptions and Donations to the Society should be forwarded to the Treasurer, (G. W. Alexander, Esq.,) at the Society's Office, 27, New Broad-street, London.

All Communications for the Editor of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* must be sent to the Office of the Society, as above.

### The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, MAY 15, 1844.

We are happy to find that the approaching Annual Meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, which is to be held at Exeter-hall on Friday, is regarded with great interest, and is likely to be fully attended. The aspects which the anti-slavery cause presents in various parts of the world are truly deserving of this warm regard; and we cannot anticipate for a moment but that the meeting will calmly and firmly direct its immense moral power to the great objects for the promotion of which it is convened.

The venerable Thomas Clarkson, whose infirmities preclude him from attending at the meeting on Friday, has addressed a letter to Mr. Sturge, with the view of its being read as his address to the assembly. We are permitted to insert the following portion of it:—

"There is another topic, on which I mean to say a few words. Our Committee have been censured because they have opposed the introduction of slave-grown sugar into our market on the same terms as sugar from our colonies where slavery has been abolished. I do most conscientiously approve of their conduct in this respect. For what was the object which they pledged themselves to the public to promote, when they were called together as a Committee? Was it not to secure, as far as they could, the abolition of slavery and the slave-trade? Now, wherever plantations are worked by slaves, they owe their existence to the slave-trade. To allow, therefore, the importation of slave-grown sugar into our market, would be to give a powerful encouragement to the slave-trade, and to spread desolation and bloodshed wider and wider in Africa—in Africa, already bleeding at every pore. Well has Lord Brougham observed, that, 'by admitting the Cuba and Brazil sugar into this country, we should immediately and directly commission some scores of slave-trading vessels to assail and haunt the African coast; and that, if an act of Parliament were passed for this purpose, it would be as inevitably an act for the more effectual encouragement of the African slave-trade, as if it honestly and shamelessly bore that name.' Can our Committee, then, after the language of such a faithful and indefatigable friend to our cause as Lord Brougham, and having at their formation pledged themselves to every legitimate practical means to suppress the trade in slaves, give such a large bonus, such a golden premium, as the diminution of duty would amount to, to continue it? But I have now the pleasure of informing you, that there is one thing which our Committee can do consistently with their honour, and the original intention of the institution. They can, and will, give their sanction to the opening of our market to sugar coming from any part of the world, on equal terms with sugar from our own colonies, provided it be the produce of free labour.

I have no doubt that, if a large bonus or premium were to be offered to Cuba or Brazil, such as that of coming with their sugar into our market on equal terms with our own, there would be planters in these countries who would make a trial of free labour on their estates. And, in my opinion, it requires only a beginning to be made to be followed up by other planters. What a bright prospect is here opened to us!—the prospect of having cheap and yet free sugar, of having a constantly increasing supply of that article, and moreover a constant augmentation of free, and constant diminution of slave labour."

We observe with great pleasure the effort made by the Directors of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Company, to supersede the employment of slave-labour at their works in Brazil, and we cannot doubt the sincerity of the "applause" which, according to the report in the papers of the half-yearly meeting, greeted this most gratifying announcement. That the measure they have at length adopted will be in the highest degree satisfactory to the proprietors at large, the Directors must be well assured, and we trust it will be (as the *Morning Herald* has it), "carried out in good faith." It was not necessary, however, that our contemporary should "recommend this fact to the attention of the Anti-Slavery Society." If that society were not too insignificant for its operations to engage the notice of the *Herald*, its humane editor would have known that their attention had been keenly fixed on this matter for several years past; and that, if it had been possible to obtain evidence fit to go into court, the Directors of some mining companies would not have enjoyed the "impunity" which seems so much to afflict him. However, we hope the evil will be at an end now, not only with the Imperial Brazilian, but with all the other mining companies who have either held or employed slaves.

THE League is still fingering the Gordian knot. Ill contented, as it would seem, with the reasonings of their eloquent advocate, Mr. George Thompson, Mr. Cobden has now taken the matter in hand. This gentleman delivered himself of a somewhat grave attack on the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and those who act with them, at Covent Garden Theatre on the 1st instant. Allowing them to be "honest and well-meaning men," he will not call them "philanthropists," this being too good a designation for persons "of unreasoning, if conscientious, benevolence." No doubt, all the argument, if not all the humanity, is on the side of the ultra-free-traders; the would-be philanthropists being animated by "pure fanaticism," and assuming a "dictatorship" which must be "put down." By an orator of the Anti-corn-law League this is certainly well and decorously said.

But, since the Anti-Slavery Society has no arguments, what are the conclusive reasonings of the League, or of its mouth-piece on this occasion, Mr. Cobden?

Mainly, a misrepresentation—and a misrepresentation so often made, and so often pointed out, that one might be almost tempted to regard the repetition of it as a standing artifice in this controversy. He alleges, that the Committee have "petitioned Parliament not to allow the people to consume sugar, unless they could prove it had not the taint of slavery." Not so, Mr. Cobden. The argument of the petition is, that the admission of Brazilian sugar would aggravate the miseries of the slave and the atrocities of the slave-trade. Of this allegation the speaker takes absolutely no notice; leaving us, like Mr. Thompson, to infer from his silence, both that he knows it is true, and that he feels it is unanswerable. At a later period of his speech, indeed, Mr. Cobden seems to approach this subject, by disclaiming any wish to continue slavery—a wish which, he may be fully assured, no one for a moment imputes to him—and by saying, "if you could show me that it (free trade) would promote slavery, I would abandon it at once." But what effect free trade (understanding by this term the universal abolition of all restrictions on trade) would have, is not now the question. What we maintain is, that an increased demand for slave-produce will aggravate the sufferings of the slaves, and, wherever the traffic is carried on, will supply a stimulus to the slave-trade. And this is precisely the point of which no notice has been taken.

Mr. Cobden thinks that he settles the whole question by adducing the now universally admitted axiom, that, in equal circumstances, free labour is cheaper than the labour of slaves—a principle which all the world knew, before he proclaimed it to the League, that the Anti-Slavery Convention of 1840 took much pains to elaborate and establish; and he bids us, with an air of triumph, have faith in our principles. Suppose, then, we gird ourselves up to this gigantic effort, whither will our principles conduct us? The principle in question is, that, in equal circumstances, free labour is cheaper than slave labour. And what follows from it? This, and no more,—that when free and slave labour shall be in equal circumstances all over the world, the produce of slave labour may be undersold, and the disadvantage at which the labour of slaves will be employed may favour the abandonment of slavery, where that system rests on the basis of pecuniary advantage. But the cheapness of free as compared with slave labour is no bar to the conclusion which we have already stated, and on which we lay the whole stress of our position—that an increased demand for slave produce will aggravate the sufferings of the slaves, and supply a stimulus to the slave-trade.

Mr. Cobden tries his hand at reasoning on a large scale, and discourses boldly on the philosophy of the Divine ways. "Would it not be a monstrous thing," he exclaims, "if we were to find that the moral government of the world was so contrived that man should



find his profit in doing injustice to his fellow man? Plenty and abundance," adds this enlightened theologian, "were promised from the beginning of time to those who do well; but if greater abundance and plenty are to be the reward of him who snares his fellow man, and compels him to work under the terror of the whip, it would be at war with all our ideas as to the moral government of the universe." We have quoted this passage at length, that our readers may assist us in determining for which of two qualities it is most remarkable—its inconsistency with sound philosophy, or its contrariety to matters of fact. What Mr. Cobden's "ideas as to the government of the universe" may be we know not; but we are surprised that a man who must have exercised himself to so much thoughtfulness as he, should not know that it is altogether indecorous and unsafe for any one to frame a theory for the administration of the world, and then to insist on making the ways of the Almighty Ruler square with it. As to the matters of fact, we beg to be informed in what chapter and verse of the Bible the promise stands, which, "from the beginning of time," ensured plenty and abundance "to those who do well;" and we beg further to ask whether it is not notorious that, throughout the entire history of mankind, the greatest secular advantages have been generally obtained by systematic oppression and wrong?

Nothing in Mr. Cobden's speech is either more thoughtless or more unfair, than the point he attempts to make against the Anti-Slavery Committee in relation to the proposed reduction of the coffee duty. If this had been done at their suggestion, or had met with their approbation, the hit would have been fair enough; but neither of these is true. On the contrary, the earliest opportunity was taken in this journal to express the deep regret and chagrin of the Committee on this subject.

We have given, in our first page, an account (abridged from the *Moniteur*) of what we cannot but deem the most important step which has yet been taken by the abolitionists of France on the great question of emancipation in the French colonies; we mean a debate, of nearly five hours in length, in the Chamber of Deputies, brought on by the petitions of the arizans of Paris for the immediate abolition of slavery. The Committee to whom the petitions were referred, made a long report entirely adverse to their prayer, and recommending the Chamber to proceed to the order of the day. The reporter, M. Denis, was followed by MM. de Gasparin and Ledru Rollin, who, in vigorous and effective speeches, (which we are sorry to be obliged to reserve to our next,) refuted his statements, and urged that the petitions should be referred to the Council of Ministers—the most honourable destination they could receive. The Minister of Marine and the Colonies, Admiral Mackau, spoke on the part of the Government, proposing to lose the whole subject in an interminable postponement, but saying he should not object to the petitions being referred. The tone of the Admiral's speech seems to have called up M. Guizot, who stated emphatically, that it must not go forth from that Chamber, either to the colonies or to the mother country, that the question of abolition had retrograded. From the tenor of these two speeches, it is evident that, upon the question of emancipation, the French cabinet is divided; M. Guizot and his friends wishing to go forward, at least with preparatory measures, while M. de Mackau and other ministers (supported, we fear, by the highest influence) wish to go backwards. We learn from our correspondent, that M. de Tracy's allusion to this subject was responded to, on the part of M. Guizot, by a significant gesture.

On the part of the friends of abolition, M. de Tracy replied to the address of M. Guizot, bringing prominently forward his declaration, that the abolition of slavery was a settled point, and accepting the pledge which had been given. Had time permitted, Messrs. Delamartine, Barrot, Roger, and Isambert, would have taken part in the discussion; but, as the hour was far advanced, and as the Chamber was eager for a division, the vote was taken, and the petitions were referred to the Government by a large majority.

Satisfactory as it is to us to hear M. Guizot declare so loudly that, with the French Government, the question had not retrograded, and should not retrograde, we are nevertheless far from being satisfied with the measures by which he proposes to advance it. There is, it seems, no probability that the Government will adopt either of the plans proposed by the Royal Commission, short of the demands of justice as both of these plans are. The country is to have nothing but undefined preparatory measures. M. Guizot, we are sure, expects too much from these measures; but we believe that he is far too sincere on this great question to attempt to amuse the Chamber and the French nation with trivialities, or, in the words of our correspondent, to lull them to sleep.

We are assured, that the friends of abolition in France would not be affected by any such soporific. They will see that they have gained an important point in having brought on this discussion, and we cannot doubt but they will pursue their advantage. Let them prepare petitions on a still more extensive scale, for the next session of the Chambers. They have insinuated successfully the thin end of the wedge, and nothing but a few resolute blows is wanted to carry it triumphantly through.

THE last arrival from New York has brought the important, but not unexpected intelligence, that the treaty for the annexation of Texas has been signed, and will speedily be presented to the Senate for ratification. We have given elsewhere all the information which is to be gleaned from the papers. It is understood that the matter now lies at the disposal of Mr. Clay, and in the answer to

the question, whether he, as the head of his party, and with a view to the ensuing presidential election, will court popularity in the south. The result of the next thirty days will be regarded by all parties with the deepest interest.

We copy from the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, a letter addressed by the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-slavery Society to the Commissioners of the Free Church of Scotland, who are now soliciting contributions in the United States, on the subject of receiving money from slaveholders. The document is ably written, and the subject of great importance. We commend the letter to attention.

#### SUPPLY OF SUGAR BY FREE LABOUR.

(From the *Morning Herald*.)

RESERVING the expression of any opinion on the Government measure for increasing honestly the consumption of sugar until the plan is enunciated in its details, which have obviously a most important bearing on the slave-trade, let us cast a glance at those countries in which sugar is cultivated by means that do not promote that accursed traffic. They are Java, Manilla, Siam, Cochin China, and China—countries teeming with industrious, enterprising, and active populations, blessed with most prolific soils, and importing, more or less, British manufactures. The first two are, as every one knows, colonies of European states; Java, belonging to the Dutch; and Manilla, under which name is included the ten larger as well as the smaller Philippine Islands, to the Spaniards. The three others are independent states, with two of which, Siam and Cochin China, though they have strong and well-ordered governments, we have at present no commercial or political relations. The population of China is estimated at not less than three hundred and fifty millions; the population of Java is said to be upwards of eight millions, and, inclusive of the adjoining island of Madura, reaches nine millions. The Philippines contained, in 1837, three millions and a half of inhabitants; and, though we have no approximating estimate of the population of Siam and Cochin China, we do know that those states form, in populousness, no exception to the adjacent countries. As, therefore, they possess, in ample abundance, the primary elements of sugar production, labour and soil eminently suitable to its culture, there can be little doubt, that, through the instrumentality of increased demand, their supply of sugar for exportation will quickly augment. And though the system of cultivation in these countries is unfavourable to the establishment of large plantations, the *métayer* system of cultivation that prevails, and the highly commercial spirit of the people, will, to a great extent, make up for any want of capital for the erection of great works, and stimulate the culture of sugar in small patches of the soil.

They are all at present sugar-exporting countries. The production of sugar in Java is calculated at not less than 60,000 tons, or 10,000 tons more than one-fourth of our whole consumption. By far the greater part of this quantity goes to Holland; not, however, for home consumption, for Holland does not consume an eighth part of the sugar she annually manufactures, but for re-exportation in its refined form. Undoubtedly, the Dutch Colonial Government have forced the cultivation of sugar in Java, just as the Home Government have forced the sugar-refineries of Holland: the inhabitants of the island are obliged to cover a fifth part of their estates with sugar; and further produce is encouraged by bounties from the Government, and money is advanced by the Government to stimulate production. But in spite of this high pressure, there is no reason to believe that the maximum amount of sugar has yet been cultivated in Java; on the contrary, it is probable that, through legitimate and healthy demand, Java could, with its present population, easily produce one-third more sugar. The attempt of the Dutch to engross, by means of bounties, the market of continental Europe for refined sugar, has failed; the revolution of September, 1830, deprived them of the consumption of Belgium; Russia prohibits the importation of refined sugar; Germany, to raise up sugar-refineries of her own, and to protect her beet-root sugar, imposes high duties on refined sugar; England is a refined sugar exporting country; and France, until very lately, discouraged the admission of Dutch manufactured sugar. Yearly the Dutch export less and less refined sugar; and their high internal duties and their frugality limit their own consumption to an amount much below their ability. Extended markets for Java sugar are consequently an object of first-rate importance for Holland; and it seems but reasonable that any advantages we may confer on her in that respect should be productive of large concessions to our commerce in the Indian archipelago.

The export from Manilla, in 1843, is said to have reached 20,000 tons, of which nearly one-third went to the Australian colonies, about one fourth to the United States and Singapore, and the remainder to Europe.

Sugar has long been a staple production of Cochin-China; but hitherto it has been principally exported to China. A small quantity has, however, of late found its way north of the straits of Singapore, though it is believed none has yet reached England.

A small quantity of the 10,000 tons Siam is said to export has reached Europe; but, though of a superior quality, its price is, owing to the king monopolising its export, high; but, with an open market to attract it, some 5,000 or 6,000 tons are anticipated, by the Mincing-lane brokers, to be annually imported.

Of the Chinese trade in sugar we know very little: as far as we can learn, China seems to export small quantities of her own high-priced sugar, and to import largely the cheaper sugars of her neighbours. We have seen the export price stated at 30s. a cwt., a figure which, if about the general rate, would totally preclude its importation here.

Such is the amount of what is known of free-labour sugar. And now, in conclusion, a few words on the fears expressed, that the importation of free-labour sugar will encourage the slave-trade, by transferring part of the quantity now sent to the Continent, and replacing it with slave produce. It is apprehended that the United States will, under the proposed arrangement, introduce Cuban sugar as their own produce into our markets. But here two extremely important facts are overlooked; first, that the



United States are dependent on foreign countries for 50,000 tons of sugar, or nearly one-third of their consumption; and, secondly, that foreign sugar imported into the Union pays a duty of 2½ cents a lb., or 11s. a cwt., so that any Cuban sugar travelling through America to England would, in our ports, have 21s. a cwt., besides freight to New York and thence across the Atlantic, added to its prime cost—an amount totally prohibitory of its consumption here. But Jonathan may, we shall be told, abolish his import duty on foreign sugar, to gain the profit of inundating our markets; if so, he would thereby ruin all the sugar planters of Louisiana, as well as the maple-sugar growers—a trick he is not likely to perform to “realise” Lord John Russell’s prediction.

#### PINANG SUGAR.

(From the *Indian News*.)

In the year 1836, the sugars of Bengal were placed upon the same footing with those of the West Indies and Mauritius, and of course a prohibition issued against the importation of foreign sugars, as the latter pay a differential duty. The act, however, left it at the discretion of the Governor-General to except from the operation of this measure such portions of the presidency as he thought fit; and he accordingly excepted the Straits’ settlements from the prohibition of foreign sugars, thus leaving them, as regards that product, *in statu quo*. Now the Straits’ settlements consist of several colonies, widely separated from each other by foreign territories, and each absolutely distinct from the rest in natural productions and commercial interests. Singapore, for instance, is the great depôt of the Archipelago, and carries on a lucrative trade in sugars with Siam, the Philippines, Java, and Cochin China; and to have suffered the act to extend to that place would have been a sentence of ruin, perhaps of utter extinction. Pinang, on the other hand, with the annexed territory on the main called Province Wellesley, is a sugar colony, small but exceedingly fertile, which, after supplying its own 100,000 inhabitants, has been accustomed to export the article in considerable quantities: to it, therefore, the act would have been a boon of the highest importance; while, as regards England, it would have contributed *pro tanto* to diminish the difficulties with which the straitened supply, except from slave countries, invests the general sugar question. The proceedings of the Indian Government, therefore, shielded the admirable settlement of Singapore from the injury its growing prosperity would have received, but at the same moment arrested, as if with a hand of iron, the march of improvement in Pinang.

It is impossible to conjecture what reasons could have influenced the Government in turning a deaf ear to the repeated remonstrances which were made upon this subject. In ordinary cases it is customary to state what the difficulties are, so as to give the petitioners an opportunity of explaining, or at least to satisfy them of the wisdom of the legislative power. No ingenuity, however—no urgency—no questions, direct or indirect, could ever elicit more than a flat denial. We are always unwilling to attribute interested motives; but it really looks as if the suspicions loudly expressed by the Pinang planters had some foundation, and that an influence quite unconnected with public or general policy had been exercised against the island. At all events, we submit that this is a proper case for the interference of Parliament, where some steps ought to be taken immediately to induce the Indian Government at least to give their reasons.

It was conjectured that the difficulty might have arisen from a supposition that the prohibition of foreign sugars would be rendered partially inoperative by smuggling; but the reply is, that the inland frontier is easily protected, being only about forty miles in extent; that the article is too bulky and too cheap to repay the risks of illicit trade; and that the colonists offered to submit to a tax on sugar sufficient to defray the expense of the preventive service.

We ought to mention that Malacca, another of the Straits’ settlements, suffers likewise by the injustice, if injustice it be, which we have pointed out. Malacca does not at present, we believe, export sugar, but it is capable of doing so with proper encouragement, and at all events it does not import a single ton. This article, however, is evidently destined to be the great staple of Pinang and Province Wellesley; for in a late *Pinang Gazette* we find it stated, that, notwithstanding the obduracy of the Indian Government, the manufacture goes on rapidly, two additional steam-mills being about to come into operation. A considerable shipment for England from Province Wellesley had been tested, and found quite equal to the West India or Mauritius sugars. By the last accounts we have seen, it was confidently anticipated that, in a very short time, the production would reach the extent of from twenty to twenty-five thousand tons; and, in order to show the comparative value of this branch of the trade (if Government will consent to accept of it!) we beg to call attention to the few following statistics:—

The whole of the sugar retained for home consumption in Great Britain, is about 192,000 tons in the year.

The portion of this received from Mauritius in 1841, was 35,800 tons.

The portion received from the West Indies and British Guiana collectively, was 107,560 tons.

Of this quantity, Jamaica, Demerara, Trinidad, and Barbadoes, contributed the greater part, and in the following proportions:—Jamaica, 26,429 tons; Demerara, 20,763 tons; Trinidad, 14,230 tons; Barbadoes, 12,855 tons.

It thus appears, that the little sugar settlement for which we are pleading is equal in importance, in so far as that article is concerned, to Jamaica and Demerara, the most productive of our western colonies; and we confidently trust, therefore, that either the Board of Control or Parliament will immediately institute a rigid inquiry into the subject we have now laid before the public.

#### THE DEBATE IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

(From *La Réforme*.)

THE Saturday sitting in the Chamber of Deputies will have its place in the history of negro emancipation. It will not be forgotten that it was by a petition of artisans that the attention of Parliament has again been called to this great question. The liberation of the slaves has not pro-

ceeded from the philosophical and political regions in which it has been discussed. The people have, at length, taken their part—a real and effective part, the importance of which interested persons have vainly endeavoured to diminish. It originates, in fact, with some artisans on whom no philanthropist would have exercised a direct influence—from a small number of workmen, who signed, without knowing what they did. The number of signatures (and it is well to mention it, for one might be surprised that it was not mentioned in the speech of the reporter,) amounted, in Paris, to 7,125. In the country, the workmen of Lyons, always sympathising with every noble and generous movement, learning the initiative taken by their brethren in the capital, hastened to combine with them; and sheets, bearing 1,704 signatures, have been forwarded, to show the Chamber their adhesion to the request of the Parisians. There are, consequently, 8,830 persons, who have formally demanded the abolition of slavery. Such a number is instructive. It is impossible to find here anything factitious, or anything but a perfectly free and spontaneous movement; especially since it proceeds from a population, not perhaps the best educated, but assuredly the most intelligent in Europe. The Chamber has properly estimated it. The sustained attention which it gave to the noble words of MM. Gasparin, Ledru-Rollin, and De Tracy, and the immense majority which rejected the order of the day, are happy and undeniable proofs of it.

The echo of the sitting of Saturday will reach even those distant territories of France which slavery still stains. The masters will draw from it a new lesson, and the negroes some consolation. This drop of water, thrown into the arid desert of slaves, will refresh their afflicted souls. Let French artisans rejoice. Forgetting their own distress to think of still greater sorrows, they have not merely done a good action; their cry for mercy will sustain, in the midst of an enslaved population, the hope which they cherish of approaching deliverance.

#### ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

(From the *Morning Chronicle*.)

THERE seems to be no doubt that the Government of the United States, personated by its new Secretary of State, Mr. Calhoun, has actually signed a treaty with the Envoy of Texas, for the annexation of that country to the Union. There seems to be as little doubt that the aim of the Government in solemnly signing this treaty, preparatory to its being submitted to the Senate, whose sanction is requisite to give it validity, is merely to create popularity for Mr. Calhoun, to enable him to stand forth eminent, if not successful, in the ensuing election, and throw upon the Senatorial Whigs the odium of rejecting a national and a popular measure with the South and West. The northern states, too, are sought to be propitiated by the terms of this agreement—mock terms to be sure—such as Texas being but a territory, having but one member in Congress, and the question of slavery being passed over—as if, annexation once agreed upon, such terms as these could be kept to. Such a crude, impracticable, and absurd scheme would not be worthy of credit, if the Government prints did not announce the signature. Signed it appears to be, and certainly a more audacious political puff never emanated from the fertile brain of an electioneering agent.

The temptation is, unfortunately, very strong, which prompts a statesman to forget at once his dignity and the prudent tenor of policy, for the sake of clap-traps to catch popularity. Van Buren, the foremost candidate for the Presidency, has experienced unexpected defeats in some of the states, especially in Connecticut; and, it is said that, should Virginia declare against him, he will abandon the field. It is also alleged that, were Mr. Clay to declare for annexation, whilst Van Buren held back, Virginia would prefer the former. And accordingly Mr. Clay does come forward to coquet with annexation, in a manner strange enough for a Whig leader. “He is for annexation,” it appears, “if the people desire it, but not at present. He must be certain that the whole people desire it, and he would refer it to them.” This mere adjournment of acquiescence on the part of the great Whig leader, should it prove true, argues badly for the future fate of the question of annexation. His followers are, however, staunch; and at a great public meeting held on his behalf at New York, annexation was loudly denounced, as an inevitable dissolution of the Union.

The grand reason, for the twentieth time put forward, is the eager efforts of England to get possession of Texas, or at least to enter into close alliance with that state, and evidence of this fact is even promised in a clause or preamble of Mr. Calhoun’s bill. The same journal, however, which is enabled to disclose the terms of the Government bill respecting Texas, reveals also the following:—

“Mr. Pakenham has received a despatch from Lord Aberdeen, in which the latter distinctly and emphatically denies that the British Government has any—the slightest—design or intention to take any steps, or receive any overture or proposition from the Texan Government, or from any quarter, for making that country a colony of Great Britain, or for acquiring anything in the shape of territorial power or government over Texas. The words of the despatch are to this effect—that Great Britain or the British Government has no desire to maintain any closer, stricter, or more intimate political relations with Texas than those which she now holds towards that country.”

One of the strangest features of the case would be, if true as reported, the acquiescence of the Mexican Minister, Almonte, in the alienation. But Santa Anna, once more menaced by France, and unsupported by England, has every reason, even in the affair of Texas, to be disgusted with the maritime powers of Europe, and to hope that, by the sacrifice of what he cannot hope to reconquer, he may make sure friends of the Anglo-Americans. Such a junction of circumstances, all tending to the absorption of an anti-slave country into a slave-holding one, seems the result of that complete *laissez faire* and negligent system of policy, the wisdom of which consists in neither foreseeing nor preventing a hostile influence of any kind, but in going to sleep with an optimist conviction that all would go right of itself, worthy of Voltaire’s *Candide*.

Since our last publication, petitions for the admission of all produce raised by free labour have been presented to the House of Commons from the following places—Dodbrooke, Kingsbridge, St. Austell.



## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—April 30.

## EMIGRATION.

Lord SANDON wished to put a question to his noble friend, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, as to emigration from the western coast of Africa. The House would recollect that there were two points which appeared to be left in some doubt. The book that was laid upon the table was the one from which he understood his noble friend had since received information; and he now wished to ask him whether the proportion between the sexes was to be preserved as first laid down; and, next, whether those parties who were allowed to emigrate from Sierra Leone were to spend six weeks in that colony before they were allowed to emigrate?

Lord STANLEY (who was almost inaudible at our end of the gallery) said the question had been put before by the honourable member for London; and it was then the opinion of the Government that the decision must depend, in a considerable degree, on the report which they expected to receive from the Governor. They had since received that report, but (as we understood) required some time to consider it before coming to a final conclusion.

## SUGAR.

Mr. BERKELEY wished to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether it was his intention to admit Java sugar under the new regulations? It was generally known that the government had imposed heavier duties on the produce of industry coming from Java than from other countries in the East; and he wished to know whether it was the intention to put that island on a footing with Manilla and Siam? At this period, when the overland mail was just going out, it was very desirable that such a doubt should be cleared up. He also wished to know whether, with respect to free-labour sugars, those admitted under the differential duty of 10s., a certificate of origin would be required?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER could assure the honourable gentleman that he had very great difficulty in answering the variety of questions that might be put to him with respect to the sugar duties previous to the time when he should be called upon to make his official explanation as to the whole of the details. This he would take the earliest opportunity of doing; till then he trusted the House would excuse his answering any question as to details; since, if he answered one, he must necessarily answer every question that might be put to him.

## Home Intelligence.

IMPERIAL BRAZILIAN MINING COMPANY.—The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders was held in the Hall of Commerce, Thread-needle-street, on Thursday, JOSHUA WALKER, Esq., in the chair.

The report for the past half-year having been read, and the routine business transacted,—

The CHAIRMAN said, he had only one observation to make, and that was in reference to a suggestion that had been made to the directors by their worthy deputy-chairman, Mr. Gibson, of sending out boys or young men from this country to the mines in Brazil, in order to do away with the necessity for the employment of slave-labour. (Hear.) Mr. Gibson himself had taken the trouble to go into Cornwall for that purpose. He had been quite successful, and had engaged a number of young men, who were to go out at a moderate rate of wages, and who, it was confidently expected, would speedily acquire that proficiency in mining which would render the employment of negro labour quite unnecessary. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks to the chairman and the directors was passed, and the meeting separated.—*Herald's Journal*.

We recommend this fact to the attention of the Anti-Slavery Society, in order that they may see that this resolve is carried out in good faith. Every person acquainted with Brazil is aware that it is the most common taunt of the slave-dealers and planters, that, whilst the English profess to be making large sacrifices for the extinction of slavery, they allow perfect impunity to the employment of slaves by the mining companies, who are exclusively composed of British capitalists. It is a question certainly worthy the deepest attention as a corollary of the sugar duties.—*Morning Herald*.

WORCESTER.—At the request of the Anti-Slavery Committee in this city, we insert the resolutions adopted by them:—

At an adjournment of the Worcester Anti-Slavery Committee, held the 18th of 5th Month, 1841, it was resolved,

1st. That this Meeting feels obliged to dissent from the views of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Committee, as embodied in their circular dated May 5th, and consider their opposition to the liberal and enlightened policy of her Majesty's Ministers in relation to the reduction of the duties on sugars, as betraying a want of confidence in the efficiency and cheapness of free, as compared with slave labour; and thereby calculated rather to retard than promote the great cause of emancipation throughout the world.

2nd. That this Meeting would suggest to the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, when questions of great importance, and involving varied and conflicting interests arise, the propriety of ascertaining, as far as possible, the opinion and wishes of their country auxiliaries, before pledging themselves to any particular line of conduct, as the most likely means of preserving unanimity and good feeling generally, throughout the Society.

3rd. That this Meeting cannot therefore adopt the recommendation of the London Committee in their recently received circular, and that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Secretary without delay. Signed on behalf of the Committee, RICHD. EVANS, Chairman.

True copy, SAML. DARKE, Secretary.

## Colonial Intelligence.

JAMAICA.—IMMIGRATION.—The *Glen Huntley*, Lieut. Leary, arrived at Annotto Bay on Friday, the 8th, with 118 immigrants from Sierra Leone, 24 delegates returned, making in all 142.—*Falmouth Post*.

THE DROUGHT.—We learn that the want of food and water continues to be severely felt in the Pedro district of St. Elizabeth. The distress, we are told, has become fearful, the people being destitute of water. In most places the tanks have been drained of their last drop. Supplies of food, we learn, had reached Alligator Pond, but that place is too distant for a great many.—*Falmouth Post*.

There is an intimation in the papers that, notwithstanding the drought, the crop is likely to be larger than last year.

LEGISLATION.—The style in which the art of legislation is carried on in this island may be judged of by the following, which is the 3rd clause of the New Hawkers' and Pedlars' Act:—

"3rd.—And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That before any hawker, pedlar, or other person shall carry about for sale or expose for sale any goods, wares, merchandise, or other articles of traffic, (except such as are herein excepted,) he shall take out a license for such purpose, and pay for such license, to the clerk of the common council in the city of Kingston, and to the clerks of the vestries of the several parishes in this island, not exceeding the sum of four pounds sterling for the use of the parish, and the further sum of three shillings sterling and no more, as a fee to each of the clerks aforesaid for their trouble in making out such license, and such license shall only continue in force for the space of one year from the date thereof: Provided always, That no license shall be granted to any person unless he shall produce to the said common council of Kingston, or the justices and vestry of the other parishes, at the time of making his application for a license, a certificate of good character signed by two justices of the parish wherein the person so applying shall reside, and provided also, that such license so granted shall extend only over the parish for which the same was granted and no further."

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.—The crops are said to be most promising, and the weather delightful.

BARBADOES.—Some months have elapsed since we edited our last agricultural report, in which we stated our fears that the present crop would not be larger than that of last year; we, however, have now great satisfaction in stating that the present one will be a far better crop than the last. For several months past we have been favoured with a fine growing and ripening season; the canes planted in June have had every advantage of weather; and we understand that these, generally, are looking healthy, and likely to ripen soon, without any loss either in growth or quantity of saccharine matter. The making of sugar is in rapid progress; and the yielding, both in the field and boiling-house, gives the planter sanguine hopes of realising more than he expected. The plants already put in for the ensuing crop are beginning to assume a very green appearance; and we perceive large tracts of land are now undergoing the usual progress previous to planting.—*Globe*.

ST. LUCIA.—"Every thing," says the *Independent Press*, "is going on smoothly and well in this island at present. The labourers are everywhere actively and industriously engaged in making sugar, of which there will be an excellent crop. The complaints to the stipendiary magistrates are few in number, and trivial in themselves; indeed, some of these magistrates have almost a sinecure, except where they cut out business for themselves to show that they are doing something."

TRINIDAD.—IMMIGRATION.—The following "Emigration Return for 1843" was laid before the Council on the 1st instant:—

TRINIDAD.—Return of the number of immigrants arrived during the year 1843, the expense of whose passage has been paid from the island treasury, and the amount paid on account thereof:—

| Whence emigrating. | Fourteen years of age and upwards. |     | Between seven and fourteen years of age. |     | Under seven years of age. |     | Total. |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----|--|-----|---------------------------|-----|--------|
|                    | M.                                 | F.  | M.                                       | F.  | M.                        | F.  |        |
| Grenada .....      | 224                                | 152 | 4  | 12  | 4                         | 9   | 405    |
| Dominica .....     | 57                                 | 31  | ..                                       | 2   | 4                         | 1   | 95     |
| Barbadoes .....    | 21                                 | 15  | ..                                       | 1   | 4                         | 5   | 46     |
| Nevis .....        | 187                                | 178 | 21                                       | 22  | 18                        | 30  | 456    |
| Tortola .....      | 6                                  | 5   | ..                                       | ..  | ..                        | 1   | 12     |
| Carriacou .....    | 43                                 | 29  | 1  | 7   | 1                         | 5   | 86     |
| Montserrat .....   | 229                                | 142 | 32                                       | 17  | 18                        | 33  | 471    |
| Antigua .....      | 4                                  | 6   | ..                                       | 1   | 1                         | 2   | 14     |
| St. Lucia .....    | 5                                  | 5   | ..                                       | ..  | ..                        | ..  | 10     |
| St. Kitts .....    | 137                                | 81  | 6  | 5   | 7                         | 14  | 250    |
| St. Vincent .....  | 105                                | 75  | 11                                       | 6   | 4                         | 4   | 205    |
| Anguilla .....     | 12                                 | 7   | ..                                       | ..  | 3                         | 3   | 25     |
| America, U.S. ...  | 2                                  | 1   | ..                                       | ..  | ..                        | ..  | 3      |
| Sierra Leone ...   | 331                                | 91  | 35                                       | 2   | 7                         | 7   | 476    |
| St. Helena .....   | 125                                | 71  | 56                                       | 31  | ..                        | ..  | 289    |
|                    | 1488                               | 898 | 166                                      | 106 | 71                        | 114 | 2843   |

Amount paid in 1843, £11,449 7s. 8d. sterling.

(Signed) THOMAS F. JOHNSTON,  
Agent-General of Immigration.

A TRINIDAD MAN ABOUT TO BE SOLD AS A SLAVE IN NEW ORLEANS.—We have been informed that a coloured man, named Henry Bennet, who says he is a British subject, and native of this island, is now lying in jail in New Orleans, where he has been for the last two years, in consequence of his not being able to prove himself a freeman. He is a short stout-made man, and much marked with the small pox, and says



that he was for some time in the employment of Mr. Gibbs, formerly of Port of Spain. The British consul informed the gentleman through whose attention to the cause of humanity this information has been brought to this island, that there are three other persons, who claim the privilege of British subjects, in the same unfortunate circumstances, and who will soon be sold as slaves to pay expenses, if not speedily liberated from their imprisonment.—*Trinidad Standard*.

**BRITISH GUIANA.—IMMIGRATION.**—The brigantine *Zuilmira*, under the command of Lieutenant Hobart, R.N., arrived in the river this afternoon, in thirty-five days from Rio Janeiro, with 135 captured Africans on board. These strangers consist of 103 boys, 4 men, 9 women, and 29 girls. Lieutenant Hobart captured on the 24th December last, while in command of the boats of her Majesty's brig *Dolphin*, the *Zuilmira*, and a brig called the *Anna*, off the coast of Brazil. The *Zuilmira* had no slaves on board when seized by the Lieutenant, having landed the whole of her cargo immediately previous. The damning evidence she contained of her being engaged in the accursed slave traffic, of course, caused her forfeiture. The 135 people who have been brought among us were taken from the holds of the latter vessel, the *Anna*. The original number of the captives was 145: the other 10 have been sent with others to Trinidad. A fact worthy of notice in these seizures is, that so overwhelming a proportion of the intended slaves were boys, almost to the entire exclusion of members of the other sex of a corresponding age. As it is natural to suppose, in a mercantile point of view, that the cargo of the *Anna* was laid in to order, it is hence clear that the Brazilian planters, perhaps in the hope of the British markets being shortly thrown open, are playing a desperate game. They would seem to be seeking by every means to augment the effective strength of their gangs, and consequently the cultivation of their estates; thoroughly reckless of all distant consequences, whether as affects themselves or their wretched dependents. To attain this twofold object, no means are more obvious than to procure, if possible, none but male slaves. The claims of nature or posterity are overlooked; nay, even their own enlarged interests. Present gain is the grand end.—*Royal Gazette*.

### Foreign Intelligence.

**TEXAS.—THE TREATY SIGNED.**—From the *Morning Chronicle*.  
*Liverpool, Sunday.*

The New York packet ship, *New York*, Captain Cropper, with dates to the 17th ultimo, arrived here to-day at noon.

Mr. Tyler and Mr. Calhoun's policy, no doubt with views to the next presidential election, have brought about the extraordinary step of a treaty for the annexation of the territory of Texas to the United States. The details are not fully known, but the fact is confirmed by statements in the *Madisonian* and the *Washington Globe*, government papers.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD.

"Washington, April 13.

"I am glad to be able to give you the facts; it matters not whence I get them. It is enough that implicit credit may be given them. The leading terms of the Texian treaty are as follows:—

"1st. The United States are to discharge or assume the debts of Texas, to the amount of what the sale of Texian lands will pay, and no farther. The assumption will only equal the sale of lands.

"2nd. Texas is to be admitted as a territory, and to be allowed one delegate in Congress. I am not positively informed as to the matter of the delegate, but have no doubt as to the truth of the statement.

"3rd. Nothing is said about slavery; and on this point I suppose will be the only issue in ratifying the treaty.

"4th. The accompanying correspondence (which will all be laid before the Senate) will develop the fact that England has been making overtures to Texas of an alliance. The Government of the United States has been apprised of the fact. Mr. Upshur entered into correspondence with Mr. Everett upon the subject. Mr. Everett replied. Mr. Upshur wrote again. Since his death an answer has been received; and the whole correspondence will be submitted to the Senate.

"5th. The treaty must be ratified, in order to take effect, within thirty days after it shall be sent into the Senate.

"The facts respecting the interference of England with Texas, are of an astounding character, and cannot fail to exasperate the people of this country, who will not allow a foreign power to interfere in a family quarrel between the United States and Texas."

The latter part of this statement is quite a satisfactory proof that this measure has been brought forward to advance the private interests of Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Tyler; it is utterly unworthy of credit.

(From the *Morning Herald*.)

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Sun* of the 16th says—

"At last we are to have the treaty for the annexation of Texas. The President and high contracting parties signed the treaty yesterday. It is of course impossible to get at the terms of the treaty with anything like accuracy—as every one has been sworn to secrecy that has had anything to do with the drawing up of the treaty. But still some facts will leak out in relation to it. Among others, these are alleged to form certain features in the matter. There is nothing inserted in the treaty about the boundary. The public lands of Texas are to be surrendered to the United States, and the United States is to pay the debts of Texas. These are to be all limited to a sum somewhere about ten million dollars. Texas is to be admitted as a territory, to enjoy equal privileges with Florida and no more; to send one representative to the next session of this 28th Congress and to every other Congress until Texas has either been admitted into the union as a state, or else divided into two or more territories. These are the main features of the treaty as they are talked of in the House of Representatives to-day."

The same paper of the following day adds:—

"Out of doors and in Congress it is universally stated that Texas is to come in as a territory, with one delegate to Congress, to be elected next October. That a Board of Commissioners is to be formed, who are to examine all claims and evidences of debt against Texas, and to allow only the just claims; that is, if a man received a piece

of Texas scrip of the nominal value of five dollars for one dollar, he is to be allowed only one dollar for it. The boundary line is to be left open for future negotiation; and Mexico is to be paid several millions—say five or ten millions—as an equivalent for her claim on the territory. These are the current rumours out of doors. I give them for what they are worth."

**HAYTI.**—The following lamentable account of the insurrection at Hayti we copy from the *Jamaica Gazette* of the 8th of April:—

"The French brig *Adelina*, Captain Tahet, arrived in this port on Saturday evening, bringing disastrous intelligence, and no less than 140 passengers, including twenty-five children—all persons of colour, and compelled to fly from their native land, to seek refuge under the flag of foreigners.

"Our readers remember that the new president, Herard, had marched with a large army for St. Domingo city, to quell the insurrection in the eastern portion of the island. Taking advantage of the absence of the general and troops, the black people rose *en masse* on Sunday, the 31st March, and commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of the brown population. On Wednesday the National Guards of the town of Aux Cayes went out with two pieces of ordnance to suppress the rebellion and punish the rebels; but, as we have learned, their own general commanding delivered up the cannon to the blacks, and joined them himself. Thus strengthened, they drove the National Guard back again to Aux Cayes, entered the town, and commenced a relentless butchery—murdering every brown person, without regard to sex or age. The wretched inhabitants had no means of defence, no refuge, save on board the few foreign ships lying in the harbour—French, American, and English. Into these they crowded in confused and huddled batches—men, women, and children literally covering the decks, and exhibiting a distressing spectacle of misery and sudden destitution. But the decked vessels were not sufficient to hold the number of wretched refugees; the port was dotted over with small open boats, each containing as many human beings as it could hold, who dared not remain on land to await certain massacre, and yet could have little hope of escaping by sea. Captain Tahet, a man worthy of his country and of humanity, could not for a moment think of leaving to a miserable fate those who had fled to his protection and the guardianship of the tri-colour. He was bound for France, and had but provisions sufficient for his crew. To Cuba or Porto Rico, which would have been on his route, he could not bring his poor *protégés*, for there they would not have been received. With disinterested generosity, therefore, he sailed for Jamaica, and here has safely landed his unhappy freight. Most of these made their escape from shore without any other property than their wearing-apparel—some, indeed, with scarcely that. At eight o'clock on Thursday evening, Captain Tahet set sail, and at that time the work of blood was going on, and the port crowded in the manner mentioned. We shall probably have some of the other vessels with the refugees arriving here to-day. When the *Adelina* left, her commander had just got his letters from St. Domingo; and, though rumours were rife, there was no certain information of any encounter having taken place between Herard and the Spanish revoltors."

"IMPORTANT FROM HAYTI.—The *General Marion*, Captain Shepherd, arrived last night from Port-au-Prince. We are indebted to Captain S. for *Le Progrès* and the annexed. It seems that the recent outbreak has a wheel within a wheel—that the French are at the bottom of it—owing, probably, to their late defeat in the negotiations with the existing Haytian government. But the following tells the whole story:—

"General Herard, the president, was at Arach, within thirty miles of St. Domingo, with one division of his army, consisting of 15,000 men. Several schooners have gone round with artillery. The insurgent force is estimated at from 8,000 to 10,000. The President's son, Colonel Deo Herard, who commanded one of the regiments stationed at St. Domingo, with all the force that sided with him, were liberated on parole, and the colonel had arrived at Port-au-Prince, *via* Jacmel. A Colonel Pimentel took possession of a town bordering on the Spanish part, in the name of the insurgents. The town was mostly inhabited by mahogany-cutters, who were away. On hearing of the march of the President, they assembled by night, and took the colonel prisoner, with his papers, and sent him to head-quarters. Amongst these papers was one purporting to be a negotiation between the insurgents and the French Government, through the French consul lately stationed at St. Domingo; the French offering to supply money and arms, with the aid of 10,000 men, if necessary, on condition that they were to receive the island Samana (at the east) as a naval dépôt, and to have the original French part of the island restored to them. This, of course, had excited a vast deal of indignation."—*Morning Chronicle*.

**CUBA.—TRAGICAL EVENT.**—We understand, that shortly before the R. M. S. *Trent*, now in harbour, sailed from St. Jago de Cuba, a very fine-looking black slave went on board, who, on being reported by the purser to the captain, was told that he could not be taken off the island without a passport, and therefore must go on shore again. To this he strongly demurred, and on being urged, he replied in broken English—"Me no go ashore again!" and drew a knife from his pocket, with which he nearly severed his head from his body. The unfortunate man had in his possession 200 dollars, three boxes of cigars, and a copy of "Gil Blas," which were taken ashore along with his body by the Spanish authorities. It was understood, adds our informant, that he had the misfortune to belong to an unkind master, and that, finding his hope of escape thus balked, he had committed the fatal act above described.—*Jamaica Times*.

It is said that the Spanish Government intend to transport upwards of 3,000 blacks from Havana to Africa, and shoot 200!! And that upwards of 140,000 free persons of colour are resident in Cuba, who are in favour of the slave population and freedom.

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Wednesday, May 15, 1844.